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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: H. Ishibashi et al.

: Art Unit: 2651

Serial No.: 09/612,797

: Examiner:

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FOR: MULTIVALUED INFORMATION RECORDING METHOD, MULTIVALUED

INFORMATION RECORDING APPARATUS, AND

RECORDING MEDIUM (AS AMENDED)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Technology Center 2500

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the reference listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith. A copy of the listed reference is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

Japanese Reference H6-309720 is not in the English language, but an English abstract thereof is attached to the copy of the reference submitted herewith.

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No Final Action or Notice of Allowance has yet been received and it is presumed that none has yet been mailed.

Respectfully, submitted,

Allan Ratner, Reg. No. 19,717 Attorney for Applicants

Enclosures:

PTO Form 1449 Copy of (1) Reference

Dated: May 21, 2002

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to:
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